

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

MASONIC HALL DEDICATION  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1970  
RUSSELL, KANSAS

1877  
\* Quincy J. Hulbert  
1881-53  
1892-15  
15 submitted  
Hulbert's papers

"THE SPIRIT OF RUSSELL"

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ I NEED <sup>2/17</sup> TO TELL YOU WHAT A ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ PLEASURE IT  
IS ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ TO COME HOME AND TO SHARE WITH YOU THIS DEDICATION OF  
YOUR NEW MASONIC HALL.

IN PREPARING TO COME ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ -- AND THINKING WHAT I MIGHT  
SAY ABOUT ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ -- IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT MY OWN FEELINGS  
<sup>may be</sup> PERHAPS THE BEST INDICATOR OF WHAT LIFE AS A MASON HAS MEANT <sup>unfortunately not an action</sup>  
TO ME.

I BELIEVE THIS TO BE BEST BECAUSE TODAY I HAVE BEEN REUNITED  
WITH A GROUP OF FRIENDS AND MEN WITH WHOM I HAVE ALWAYS HAD A  
STRONG PERSONAL BOND OF FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUALITY.

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THIS MAY SOUND ~~VERY~~ SENTIMENTAL, BUT I ASSURE YOU, SUCH FEELINGS ARE FOR ME A VERY SERIOUS EXPERIENCE. WHY? BECAUSE MY LIFE'S WORK -- THE JUDGEMENTS AND DECISIONS WHICH I HAVE MADE IN ~~CONGRESS~~ -- HAVE BEEN BASED <sup>in part,</sup> ~~WHOLLY~~ UPON MY ~~OWN~~ <sup>a number of my community</sup> MAKING EXPERIENCES AS A ~~LEADER~~ AND THROUGH THE ~~SPRIT~~ <sup>"GREAT SELL"</sup>, ~~WHICH~~ ~~WAS~~ ~~THE~~ ~~FOUNDATION~~ ~~OF~~ ~~OUR~~ ~~COUNTRY~~ ~~AND~~ ~~THE~~ ~~REASON~~ ~~WHY~~ ~~WE~~ ~~ARE~~ ~~ABLE~~ ~~TO~~ ~~ACHIEVE~~ ~~OUR~~ ~~GOALS~~.

I CAN STATE OBJECTIVELY THAT MASONRY HAS PLAYED A VITAL ROLE -- INDEED A KEY ROLE -- IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING AMERICA. IN FACT, WE MASONS ARE MOST REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICA'S "SILENT MAJORITY" -- THE SILENT MAJORITY UPON WHICH THE FUTURE OF OUR GREAT NATION DEPENDS AND RESTS.

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WE KNOW THAT THERE IS AN OBLIGATION RESTING ON EACH ONE OF US, AS MASONS, TO CONTRIBUTE AS FAR AS LIES IN OUR POWER, TOWARDS THE PERFECTION OF THE CRAFT. WE LIVE IN A LAND WHICH HAS NOT ONLY PROVED TO BE AN ASYLUM FOR THE PERSECUTED AND A HOME FOR THE EXILED, BUT WHERE FREE INSTITUTIONS IN BUSINESS AND POLITICS GUARANTEE SUCCESS TO ALL WELL CONDUCTED MORAL AND INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITIES -- WITHIN OUR SOCIETY.

THUS, THANKS TO OUR EFFORTS IN RUSSELL -- AND THE EFFORTS OF MASONS THROUGHOUT AMERICA -- OUR NATION HAS BECOME AN EXAMPLE TO THE WORLD.

DEVOTION TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTION

ABOVE ALL, THE AMERICAN MASON OWES A DUTY TO THE INSTITUTION OF HIS COUNTRY. THE AMERICAN MASON SEES HIMSELF AS A CITIZEN OF A GLORIOUS REPUBLIC. HE BELIEVES THAT THE ACTIONS OF HIS SOCIETY CAN SERVE AS A MIGHTY INFLUENCE IN THE EYES OF PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. AS MASONS WE BELIEVE IN THE POSSIBILITY THAT RATIONAL

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LIBERTY WILL, SOONER OR LATER, BE ENJOYED BY EVERY CIVILIZED PEOPLE.

FOR GENUINE LIBERTY IS THE LIFE OF MASONRY. THE SACRED DUTY OF EVERY AMERICAN MASON IS TO SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN OUR FREE INSTITUTIONS AND TO BIND CLOSER TOGETHER THE CORDS OF THIS GREAT UNION.

~~BY~~ THIS IS WHY I SAY THAT AS A MASON "THE SPIRIT OF RUSSELL" HAS BEEN A VERY ~~PERSONAL~~ AND HAS GUIDED MY WORK AS A SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE.

IT IS THIS SPIRIT WHICH HAS HELPED ME TO ALWAYS REMAIN DEVOTED TO MY DUTY AS A MASON AND AS A LEGISLATOR TO KEEP OUR GOVERNMENT FREE FROM THOSE CORRUPTIONS WHICH HAVE CAUSED THE DOWNFALL OF EUROPEAN AND ASIAN COUNTRIES NOW UNDER THE YOKE OF DICTATORSHIP.

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OUR MAIN MASONIC DUTY

OUR MAIN MASONIC DUTY, THEREFORE, IS NOT TO LET THE ENEMIES OF LIBERTY AND FREEDOM BE SUCCESSFUL IN OUR BLESSED COUNTRY AND NOT TO ALLOW OUR CONSTITUTION AND FREEDOM TO BECOME A BYWORD. THE MASON MUST ALWAYS NAIL OUR FLAG TO THE TREE OF LIBERTY -- FOR LIBERTY IS THE ESSENCE OF MASONIC BROTHERHOOD AND FRIENDSHIP.

ANOTHER GREAT MASONIC ASSET -- OUR BELIEF IN GOD

HAND IN HAND WITH OUR DEVOTION TO LIBERTY IS THE MASON'S BELIEF AND REVERENCE IN GOD. BELIEF IN GOD CREATES A UNITY OF FAITH FOR ALL MEN TO JOIN TOGETHER. AS BELIEVERS IN GOD, WE MUST BE OF NECESSITY TOLERANT OF ONE ANOTHER. THIS MEANS THAT BY WORDS AND DEED MASONS ACT POSITIVELY IN DOING GOOD AND AVOID ALL THINGS WHICH ARE NOT GOOD.

~~FROM MY EXPERIENCE~~ ~~AS A MASON~~, I WAS IMPRESSED BY THE LARGE NUMBER OF MASONS IN MY COMMUNITY -- ~~THE~~ IN RUSSELL AND ~~THE~~ STATE -- WHO WERE IN THE FOREFRONT OF CIVIC AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES. ~~THIS~~ THIS FACT BEST DESCRIBES WHAT I CONSIDER TO BE THE MASONIC IMAGE.

*I have always been*

*Kansas*

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ASSOCIATION WITH YOUTH

HOWEVER, WE MUST NOT BE CONTENT TO GLORY IN OUR PAST. WE MUST WORK TODAY IN PREPARATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE TO FOLLOW US IN THE DAYS AHEAD. I THINK THAT YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT ONE WAY OF DOING THIS IS TO SUPPORT WITH OUR WORK THE ACTIVITIES OF THE YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY AND STATE. WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT THESE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WILL SOON BECOME THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW. THE WORK WE DO WITH THE YOUTH OF TODAY WILL DEVELOP INTO A GREAT ASSET IN THE YEARS AHEAD -- AN INVALUABLE ASSET FOR OUR SOCIETY AND COUNTRY.

LEADERSHIP AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF FREEMASONRY

FREEMASONRY IS A WAY OF LIFE. IT IS A WAY OF LIFE NOT ONLY FOR FREEMASONS, BUT BY THE INFLUENCE OF THE CRAFT, THESE PRINCIPLES MUST BE PUT TO USE FOR ALL PEOPLE WHO CAN UNDERSTAND THEM.

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WE ARE A BEACON LIGHT SET UP TO LIGHT THE WORLD IN ETHICAL, HUMANITARIAN LIVING. IT IS THESE PRINCIPLES BY WHICH MEN ARE UPLIFTED AND IT IS OUR SOLEMN DUTY AS MASONS TO SEE THAT OUR NEW HALL, WHICH WE DEDICATE TODAY, CONTINUES TO INSPIRE SUCH PHILOSOPHY AND DEVOTION WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY.

MASONIC LEADERSHIP IS BASIC TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE MEANS BY WHICH OUR PHILOSOPHY CAN BE UNDERSTOOD AND USED. OUR DAILY LIVES ARE THE BEST BILLBOARDS FOR MASONRY. THE INDIVIDUAL WHO ACTS IN THE NAME OF THE CRAFT IS THE ONE WHO GIVES FREEMASONRY ITS REAL IMAGE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND INDEED TO THE WHOLE WORLD.

LET OUR DEDICATION OF THIS WONDERFUL NEW HALL TODAY BE UNDERTAKEN WITH THE SAME DEGREE OF SERIOUSNESS AND SOLEMN DEVOTION THAT WE AS INDIVIDUALS RENDER TO OUR COMMUNITY, OUR STATE, AND OUR NATION.